



HR0118

LRB098 11164 GRL 41867 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Bettye Pearl Jakes-Russ, who passed away on February 11, 2013; and

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WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ was born on April 29, 1926, in Minter City, Mississippi; she was the seventh of the eight children of Robert and Sarah Knox; she married Percy Jakes in 1949; and

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WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ confessed hope in Christ at an early age; she was a faithful member of the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Oneida, Arkansas, where she served on the usher's and mother's boards as a Sunday school teacher, church secretary, choir member, pastor's aide, and the president of the mission department; she later moved to Chicago and became a member of First Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. George Daniels; and

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WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ was a cherished friend of everyone she met throughout her life and was known as the "politician's mom of the 37th Ward of Chicago"; and

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WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ enjoyed fishing, making jewelry, and working in her puzzle book; and

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1 WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ was a devoted mother and was
2 known for enjoying spending time with her family and sharing
3 love in every aspect of her life; and

4 WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ was a truly exemplary human
5 being; she will always be remembered for her dedication to
6 serve others and for her inspiration, strength of character,
7 courage, generosity, and caring for her family and friends; and

8 WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ was preceded in death by her
9 parents; her siblings, Sedell, Luemether, Luethel, CW, Chapel,
10 Shain, and Cell Knox; and her children, Joe L. Knox,
11 Cornelious, Fannie Lee, Nathaniel, Willie B., Danielle Yvonne,
12 and Freddie B. Jakes; and

13 WHEREAS, Bettye Jakes-Russ is survived by her children,
14 Excell (Dorothy) Brown, Lacy Flemings, Jeanette (Sam) Sidney,
15 Eartis (Marilyn) Jakes, Mary Jackson, Minnie Jakes, Percy Jakes
16 Jr., Bettye (Rufus) Pulphus, Jessie Jakes, Ald. Emma Mitts,
17 Lueathel (Lenard) Seawood, and Sheryl (Ira) French; her
18 sisters-in-law, Catherine Young, Cora Lee Swanigan, and Sara
19 Knox; her 54 grandchildren; her 102 great-grandchildren; her 26
20 great-great grandchildren; her godson, Reverend Clifford
21 Williams; and her many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and
22 friends; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we mourn the passing of Bettye Jakes-Russ and we extend our
4 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
5 and loved her; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Bettye Jakes-Russ as an expression
8 of our deepest sympathy.